FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes launched a series of "successful raids" on Esfahan, Bushehr, and Kermanshah on 20 March, according to Voice of the Masses radio. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by the radio announced 19 March raids against the Iranian towns of Bushehr, Hamadan, Ardabil, Garang, and Khorramabad. The communique stated that Iraqi attacks will continue "from a position of strength" until Iran accepts peace. Meanwhile, Iran shelled the Iraqi towns of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, and Sayyid Sadiq with heavy artillery, the communique stated. On the Badr operation battlefronts "intense fire" continued as Iranian troops proceeded with "mopping up" operations, Tehran radio reported.

In a separate development, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i, in an interview with Tehran radio, maintained that Iraq's threats about the security of civilian airliners are "contagious" and can spread to the airspace "of all regions." The prime minister added that Iraq should count on the fact that Baghdad airport may come under attack by Iranian missiles.

GCC and the Gulf War

On his return from Baghdad the Kuwaiti foreign minister said he received a "full response" to his mission from Iraq, but noted that Iran has not sent a response that would enable a GCC delegation to visit Tehran, according to KUNA.

Reaction to Baghdad Tripartite Meeting

Following the 18 March meeting Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn held with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, in an interview with Jerusalem television, expressed hope that a Baghdad-Amman-Cairo Arab bloc would adopt Egypt's peace policy in principle and provide a counterweight to the "rejectionist front" Arab states. Israeli political sources contended that Mubarak's peace initiative could now win "renewed impetus" as a result of the Baghdad meeting, according to the Tel Aviv paper *HA'ARETZ*.

Lebanon

Sidon Clashes — Six people were killed and 30 others were wounded during fighting between Lebanese Army troops and the Lebanese Forces near Sidon on 18 and 19 March, Beirut radio reported. The radio noted that sporadic sniper fire continued early on 20 March. Earlier, Lebanese Forces gunmen warned more than 30,000 Sidon citizens to evacuate their homes, according to the radio.

Israeli Withdrawal — Israeli Prime Minister Peres, in comments broadcast by IDF radio, reiterated that Israel will withdraw from "almost all" of Lebanon within 2 months. Peres maintained that Israeli security can be ensured through "suitable" IDF deployment along the border and "not from Lebanon." Meanwhile, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, on a tour of southern Lebanon, inspected the "planned security zone," ITIM reported.

IDF Operation — A man was killed and another was wounded by IDF forces when they tried to escape during a search operation in 'Aba, Jerusalem radio announced.

Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) units launched a successful raid into Rumbek on 15 March and destroyed enemy installations, according to the clandestine SPLA radio. The radio also reported that SPLA units raided and shelled Akobo on 16 March causing "heavy damage." In a separate development, a Sudanese military spokesman cited by SUNA stated that "outlaws" recently attacked a church in the Adong area and killed a priest.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Ministry denied as "groundless" Pakistani charges that DRA planes bombed the Domandai area on 7 March and the Arandu area on 12 and 13 March, Kabul radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 054 *20 March 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Karmal Opens PDPA Central Committee Plenum ..... C 1
Pakistani Allegations of Bombing Rebuffed ..... C 1
U.S., Pakistan 'Conspiracies' Condemned ..... C 1
Commentator Hits New Zealand Paper's Reports ..... C 2

BANGLADESH

Ershad on Referendum, Objectives for Government ..... D 1
Rear Admiral in Moscow for Chernenko Funeral ..... D 1
Planning Minister Returns From PRC Visit ..... D 1

INDIA

Yugoslav Prime Minister Leaves for Home ..... E 1
Iranian Special Envoy Meets Gandhi on Gulf War ..... E 1
Gandhi's Envoys Leave for Baghdad, Tehran Talks ..... E 1
Parliament Speaker Criticizes Akali Leaders ..... E 1
Akali Meeting Expresses Confidence in Longowal ..... E 1
Ahmedabad Situation Improves; Curfew Imposed ..... E 1
Ahmedabad Situation Called 'Peaceful' ..... E 1
STATESMAN Views Zia's Constitutional Amendments *[11 Mar]* ..... E 2
NATIONAL HERALD on 'Ethnic Crisis' in Sri Lanka *[6 Mar]* ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Amends People's Representation Act ..... F 1
Afghan Aircraft Violate Airspace, Drop Bombs ..... F 1
DAWN on Sentencing of 'Libya Case' Defendants *[11 Mar]* ..... F 1
HAIDAR on Need for Political Parties *[16 Mar]* ..... F 1

IRAN

Khomeyni Stresses Importance of Education, Piety ..... I 1
Khomeyni Receives Greetings From Armenian Primate ..... I 1
Musavi on Extension of Airspace 'Insecurity' ..... I 1
Velayati leaves Algeria for Syria ..... I 2
Meets With Al-Asad ..... I 2
Prime Minister Sends Message to Japan's Nakasone ..... I 2
PDRY President Stresses 'Friendly Ties' ..... I 2
Aircraft Evacuate 1500 Foreigners From Tehran *[Paris]* ..... I 3
Reporters Invited To Visit CBW Victims ..... I 3
Chemical Bombardment Victims Filmed ..... I 3
Reportage on War Incidents, Battle Results ..... I 3
Results of Air Strikes ..... I 3
Iraqi Jet Hits Qazvin ..... I 3
Staff Communique No 2,047 ..... I 3
'Intense Fire' Continues ..... I 4
'High-Ranking' Iraqi Commanders Killed ..... I 4
Volunteers Depart for Fronts ..... I 4
POW's Paraded Through Ahvaz ..... I 4

Egyptians Reportedly Flee Baghdad ..... I 4
Basra Suffers 'Massive Destruction' ..... I 4
Bushehr Calls for Blood Donations ..... I 5
Air Attack on Hamadan, Esfahan ..... I 5
Mubarak-Husayn Baghdad Visit 'Propaganda' Ploy ..... I 5
Charge Protests Kuwaiti Press 'Hostile Attitude' ..... I 5
Afghan 'Intensified Attacks' Against DRA-USSR ..... I 5

Karmal Opens PDPA Central Committee Plenum

LD191756 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee's 15th plenum was convened today in Kabul city. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, formally opened the plenum.

After presenting the plenum's agenda and after its unanimous approval, Babrak Karmal delivered the basic statement of the plenum on the intensification of party work among the masses and the enhancement of the level of their activities in defense of the homeland and the revolution; this was warmly welcomed with revolutionary feelings by those attending the plenum. The work of the plenum is continuing.

Officials in charge of PDPA Central Committee departments, deputy heads of departments of the PDPA Central Committee, heads of regions, secretaries of provincial party committees, governors, and other comrades are taking part in the plenum.

Pakistani Allegations of Bombing Rebuffed

LD191635 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1030 yesterday and the following matters were pointed out to him by the official responsible for the First Political Section:

In the course of its previous false and groundless allegations, the Pakistani authorities have once again claimed that on 7 March four Afghan aircraft fired rockets and bombarded an area 5 km south east of Domandi, and on 12-13 March the area of Arandu.

After assessing and investigating these claims, the relevant Afghan authorities have considered them to be groundless and motivated allegations and, while resolutely refuting them, have demanded that the Pakistan Government put an end to such fabrications and fictions, which do nothing but aggravate thesituation along the borders of the two countries.

U.S., Pakistan 'Conspiracies' Condemned

LD200039 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] All of the evidence indicates that the notorious Reagan administration, by endeavoring to implement the strategic plans designed by the Pentagon planners and the destructive CIA organization, has come out to broaden the undeclared war. Parallel to this, it launched a worldwide anti-Afghan campaign to implement the predetermined objectives. The spiteful and revengeful hysteria of imperialists against the revolutionary people of our country becomes more inflamed with each failure and scandalous defeat of the exported and sold-out counterrevolutionaries who are instrumental for the implementation of these interfering and inhumane plans of Washington's palace dwellers. The powerful hand of the DRA's heroic Armed Forces makes the Pentagon further broaden its shameful interference in order to halt the victorious process of the April Revolution which is the messenger of freedom, honor, and prosperous life for the deprived people.

Despite false claims and hypocrisy aiming to brighten the faces of those in charge of the affairs in the United States and its allies before their people, undeniable documents and indisputable evidence proving the increasing crimes of these criminals are becoming available. As is said, the final destiny of fabrication and manufacturing of tales is nothing but disgrace and exposition of truth.

The U.S. Government today is not only struggling with formidable problems with respect to its open interference in the internal affairs of the DRA — contrary to all current norms and standards of international life — but is confronted with unavoidable scandals after exposure of these dreadful undercover activities. If U.S. public opinion were drawn to them, the Watergate scandal would be a minor event in comparison . The shameful memory of the Washington administration after the exposure of Pentagon documents about Vietnam, whereupon the U.S. president at that time admitted deceiving the U.S. nation and resigned, will be revived. [sentance as heard]

The documents obtained indicate that the U.S. Government with the assistance of the CIA murderer organization [passage indistinct] which even by the standards of the bourgeoisie society itself, the Congress and the House of Representatives must have known about it, Stinger-type antiaircraft rockets which follow the red rays produced by the rocket itself, and were given only to the Government of Saudi Arabia. Via this channel, these rockets (? reach) Afghan counterrevolutionary bands in Pakistan.

A letter from the so-called Etihad-e Islami Mujahidin of Afghanistan addressed to the commandment of the band's military committee, is asking for the dispatch of a number of trained Pakistani instructors since the counterrevolutionary elements are unfamiliar with the functioning of weapons made in the United States. This document bears the signature of the general commandment of a subdistrict in accordance with the self-made country chart of this band.

The other document from the commissioner's office of the so-called Afghan mujahidin, names eight U.S. and Saudi Arabian experts and two French physicians as far as the new weapons have been delivered, in such a way that each instructor or expert should be accompanied with a Dari speaking translator. [sentence as heard]

It is interesting that at the end of another document written by a Peshawar assistant intelligence director and addressed to the general intelligence director of Islamabad — in which five instructors were named to launch an agitation campaign in Afghanistan, particularly in Kabul on 21 March, that is to say New Year's Day — the observance of the undercover plan at all levels, has been recommended. However, the destiny of conspiracy and treachery, even undercover, is doomed to disgrace. The notorious Washington administration, which has experienced the blow of such scandals, still does not refrain from evil deeds. It strives in a broader scale to blind the world public and most of

all the U.S. people, to the bloodstained hands of the Pentagon and CIA, who have extended their hands from across the ocean to the territory of Pakistan to wage an undercover war against the DRA, our people, and our revolution.

The United States is not only trying to finance the cost of military training of counterrevolutionary murdering bands in Egypt, and the purchase of a large quantity of heavy weapons such as ground-to-air rockets, artillery, and heavy and light machineguns from Egypt, but has also begun the training of these mercenary-traitors to the people and the homeland in its own territory. In Pakistan also, official schools for the military education and training of Afghan rebels have begun work. Naturally, their primary objective is to use them in crushing the broad movement of Pakistani masses against the bloodthirsty regime of Ziaul Haq. As the Islamabad dictator wanted, they are being used to put out the wave of opposition to his false election.

One of the letters issued from the office of [word indistinct] secretary in Peshawar, addressed to all political agencies of the Northwest Frontier Province, exposes the telephoned instructions of General Ziaul Haq to put down resistance to the mock election by armed groups of so-called Afghan mujahidin in tribal territories in such a way that anyone who stood up to the general would be eliminated immediately.

The other letter, signed by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, ringleader of the Hezb-e Eslami band, addressed to the local commander named Dost Mohammad Naqshi, has further exposed General Ziaul's telephoned instructions to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. This document states: The election victory of the Pakistani dictator is directly linked with the desire of the counterrevolutionaries.

These undeniable documents, which are numerous, to the extent they expose the reciprocal collaboration of the notorious regime of General Ziaul with the counterrevolutionary rebels, also expose the undercover conspiracies and collaboration of Islamabad with its American masters in making anti-Afghan conspiracies.

The other letter from the head of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, addressed to [word indistinct] Pakistani commissioner for refugees [word indistinct] describes how to remove all tribal chiefs who block the election program by using the assistance of the so-called Afghan mujahidin; this is in accordance with the recommendation Dr Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, made during his meeting with General Ziaul. If this was not possible they should be gunned down.

Whether the American nation and the world public are aware or not,Kissinger is issuing a decree eliminating Pashtun tribal chiefs to his servant General Ziaul. If one agrees that the documents indicate the obedience of the Islamabad regime to Washington and interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, what better document could one present?

The DRA is not unaware of what goes on around it; the Reagan administration and Islamabad regime cannot hide their conspiracies from the vigilant and revolutionary eyes of the people of our country. The people of the DRA again raise the loud voice of objection and the shout of anger and repulsion against the continuation and broadening of the undeclared war of imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism headed by the world devouring U.S. imperialism, and give assurance that they will stand up until the decisive defeat of all open and undercover conspiracies against the country and its revolution.

Commentator Hits New Zealand Paper's Reports

LD162125 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The BAKHTAR political commentator writes:

Most of the Western press and imperialist propaganda machinery publish numerous fabrications and lies about facts in our revolutionary country. Fabrications on the Afghanistan situation, Afghan-Soviet relations, and most of all about the activities of the DRA's heroic Armed Forces and the limited contingents of the Soviet Union, who came to Afghanistan at the request of the legal government of the DRA to assist the people of Afghanistan in defending their independence and the territorial integrity of their country, are intensely under way.

The weekly *NEW ZEALAND TIMES* printed in Wellington in its last issue of January devoted one full page — including four articles, a map, and several photos — to Afghanistan. All the material printed in this weekly were lies of a bank employee named (Gurgham).

This page of the weekly wrote that (Gurgham) allegedly traveled by camel with one of the ringleaders of the terrorist band of Yunis-e Khalis, and reached Kabul during the night, and allegedly saw cities, villages, and northern provinces of Afghanistan.

The article indicates that allegedly this man saw with his own eyes that the Armed Forces of Afghanistan and the Soviet soldiers had massacred the people of Afghanistan and burned people to death with napalm bombs. This article attracted the attention of the readers. However, it revealed one fact to the readers: The readers found out that these photos were the same as those that were earlier printed in the international press. They were photos of Israel's crimes in the Sabra and Shatila camps where hundreds of the innocent sons of Arabs were massacred by Israel, and photos of the American crimes in (? Samwi) village of Vietnam where Americans burned the entire population of this village to death with napalm bombs; now once again they reappeared on the page devoted to Afghanistan, printed as if committed by the DRA Armed Forces and the Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan.

After a hue and cry, the office of this weekly realized that all this information was mere fabrication and totally lacking in truth. Therefore, Robert Fox, the editor of this weekly, apologized in an article entitled: We Were Beheaded by a Conspiracy, and disclosed the truth. In his article he wrote that (Gurgham), this dishonest man, admitted that he had not visited Afghanistan and had never ridden a camel except those he had seen in a zoo. He collected the photos from magazines and the material from anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet articles and publications. (Gurgham)'s admission proved once again that those in charge of

propaganda activities against the DRA and Soviet Union utilize every wicked method against the truth of the Afghan revolution.

The information department of the United States put all these fabrications and lies at his disposal with selected photos from crimes of Israeli aggression in Lebanon and U.S. savagery in Vietnam to distort world public opinion and to pretend that the photos were from the military activities of the DRA Armed Forces and the Soviet soldiers in our country.

Ershad on Referendum, Objectives for Government

BK191649 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Bangladesh President Lieutenant General Hussein Mohammad Ershad has reiterated that Thursday's referendum aims at ascertaining the people's views on whether they want peace, discipline, and order for a sustained national development. He was addressing a large gathering of the Secretariat employees of the Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka this morning. The president expressed his firm belief that the people will vote for peace, discipline, and uninterrupted development. He said a positive vote in his favor in the referendum will strengthen his hand and his administration to deal with the country's various problems more effectively. He explained the circumstances that had led to the holding of the referendum seeking a popular mandate on his government policies and his continuation as president till the general election under the suspended Constitution.

General Ershad said he has decided to seek a mandate of the 100 million people directly when some political parties are claiming public support for themselves after organizing rallies of 5,000 to 10,000 people. The president said he has tried his best to establish an elected government through elections. It is natural that the elections must be held for the establishment of an elected government, he added. He hoped that political parties would come forward to help the government in creating a peaceful and congenial atmosphere in which to hold the general election. The president denounced the politics of colonial days based on [words indistinct]. Expressing the need for a new political trend in the country, he said politics in a country like Bangladesh must be pragmatic and development oriented aimed for the welfare of the common people. He said his government wants to introduce such politics that would benefit the people, especially those living in rural areas. The president deplored the condition before 1 March prevailing in the country and said we shall not allow a return to a situation where students clashed with each other, buses were burned, and shops looted for very silly reasons.

He referred to the national pay commission and said it will be announced shortly after the referendum. Other problems of the government employees will be met gradually, he said.

Rear Admiral in Moscow for Chernenko Funeral

BK160326 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The deputy chief martial law administrator [DCMLA], Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed, now in Moscow, has expressed the confidence that cooperation and friendship between Bangladesh and the Soviet Union will get an added dimension in the coming days. He expressed this hope at a meeting with the deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Mr V.I. Litvinenko, in Moscow yesterday. Admiral Sultan Ahmed said the two countries will go forward in new areas of fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The DCMLA, who went there to attend President Chernenko's funeral, also hoped that the Soviet Union will reach new heights of progress and prosperity with the new dynamic and youthful leader as the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party. The Soviet deputy chairman thanked him for expressions of deep condolences on the death of President Chernenko and promised all-out help and cooperation to improve the living conditions of the people of Bangladesh.

Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed laid a floral wreath at the grave of late President Chernenko near the Kremlin wall yesterday. He was received by the commandant of the Lenin mausoleum when he laid the wreath at a special ceremony. He stood in solemn silence to pay homage to the departed Soviet leader. Bangladesh ambassador to the Soviet Union, Syed Najmuddin Hashim, was also present on the occasion.

Planning Minister Returns From PRC Visit

BK200416 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] China has expressed keen interest in further expansion of economic cooperation in all sectors with Bangladesh. This was stated by the minister for planning, Dr A. Majeed Khan, in Dhaka yesterday on his return from a 5-day visit to China. He termed the visit as very successful and said all the bilateral talks in the context of cooperation in the third 5-year plan were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and friendship. He said the bilateral discussions with the Chinese authorities included, in particular, irrigation, minihydroelectric projects, production of chemical fertiliser, and development and production of natural gas. He said China has expressed specific support for the program of our agricultural modernization.

During his stay in China, Dr A. Majeed Khan met vice premiers; members of the State Council, the president of the National Academy of Social Sciences; the chairman of the State Planning Commission; and other senior leaders connected with the economic policy, national planning, education, culture, science, and technological development of China.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Leaves for Home

BK190803 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The Yugoslav prime minister [title as heard], Mrs Milka Planinc, has said she had useful talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, during her short stay in New Delhi. Their talks covered bilateral relations and the economic crisis affecting the world.

In an interview with the All India Radio correspondent shortly before her departure for home this morning, Mrs Planinc said that she also gave her impressions of her visit to Southeast Asian countries to Mr Gandhi. She said India and Yugoslavia will try to meet again and take initiatives to solve the various problems facing the world.

Iranian Special Envoy Meets Gandhi on Gulf War

BK191616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The Iranian president's special envoy, Mr Ali Mohammad Besharati, met the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi this evening and delivered to him a message from President Khamene'i regarding the escalation of the Iran-Iraq war. Earlier, he also had a meeting with the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari.

Mr Gandhi, who is also the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, has already sent two top officials of the External Affairs Ministry to Tehran and Baghdad in an effort to de-escalate the conflict between the two countries. Both are members of the Nonaligned Movement. The prime minister has appealed to them to stop attacking each other's civilian targets as a first step towards the total cessation of their hostilities.

Gandhi's Envoys Leave for Baghdad, Tehran Talks

BK200757 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, and the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, are leaving for Baghdad and Tehran this afternoon in a fresh bid to end the conflict between the two countries. Their visit follows the appeal by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to the presidents of Iran and Iraq. Mr Khurshid Alam Khan and Mr Bhandari will fly in a special aircraft first to Baghdad and from there to Tehran.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi this morning that the recent escalation in the Gulf war, and the severe threat it poses to the stability in the region and world peace, is causing great anguish and concern to the prime minister. The spokesman said Mr Rajiv Gandhi is exercising all possible efforts to bring this tragic conflict to an end.

Parliament Speaker Criticizes Akali Leaders

BK191253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The Lok Sabha speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, today criticized some Akali leaders for their reported statements describing the president and the prime minister as enemies. He said in a democracy we can oppose each other, but we should not call anybody an enemy. This kind of talk will harm the interest of the country. The speaker said this when Mr K.K. Tiwari, Congress-I, raised the issue during zero hour and referred to press reports of statements by Mr Harchand Singh Longowal and some others.

Two former Punjab ministers, Mr Santokh Singh Randhawa and Mr Harcharan Singh Ajnala, have also criticized the reported statements of Mr Longowal.

Akali Meeting Expresses Confidence in Longowal

BK200332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] A meeting of the Akali Dal, held in Amritsar yesterday, has authorized Sant Harchand Singh Longowal to draw up the future program of the Dal. The meeting also expressed its confidence in the leadership of Sant Longowal.

Ahmedabad Situation Improves; Curfew Imposed

BK191609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, the situation in the affected areas of Dariapur and Kalupur is gradually coming under control following intensive patrolling by the Army. This was stated by the state home minister, Mr Amar Singh Chowdhury, this evening.

Meanwhile, indefinite curfew continues in most localities at Dariapur and Kalupur in the wall city. Local bus services have been withdrawn from the affected areas as a precautionary measure. Police fired at four different places in the area to disperse violent mob. An indefinite curfew has been clamped in the entire wall city from 1900 [1330 GMT] today to prevent any further incidents.

Ahmedabad Situation Called 'Peaceful'

BK200320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation in the disturbed areas of the Ahmedabad city is now peaceful. The state home minister, Mr Amar Singh Chowdhury, told our Ahmedabad correspondent, Digan Dave, a short while ago that Army patrolling has helped in bringing the situation gradually under control. Mr Chowdhury went round the affected areas late last night. He said that the police and the Army have been ordered to deal very sternly with persons indulging in arson and looting of shops and curb violence in the disturbed areas of the city.

Meanwhile, two persons died and four were injured in police firing last night at five different places in the disturbed areas. The police fired several rounds to disperse violent mobs. A few incidents of arson, looting of shops, and stone-throwing were reported from curfew-bound areas. According to the city police control, no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere since midnight.

STATESMAN Views Zia's Constitutional Amendments

BK190701 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 11 Mar 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Untouched by Votes"]

[Text] Undaunted by public indictment of his administration, General Ziaul Haq has announced changes that clearly reveal that he sees himself as being above such trivia as the ballot box or an adverse vote. In a way he is, since his position boasts of neither a popular mandate nor legal sanction. But since the general went to some trouble to obtain national approval of his programmes, and then to hold elections for Pakistan's provincial and federal assemblies, he might have been expected to display some slight respect for the verdict of the hustings. His prompt dissolution of the Cabinet even suggested a willingness to take note of the wishes of voters who had unambiguously rejected seven federal ministers. The repudiation was not personal, for all the defeated men were significant only as symbols of the martial law regime. But before all the results, especially of the provincial contests, had even been made known, the general disclosed his own constitutional strategy not only to remain in office for another five years, but also to give his enhanced authority some semblance of legality.

As chief martial law administrator of Pakistan, General Zia was already above the law. In any case, a ruler who enjoys the right unilaterally to amend the Constitution, is bound by it only to the extent that he chooses to be. Details of his tinkering with the 1973 Constitution are, therefore, mainly of academic interest, as are his promises to release political prisoners, repeal martial law, and seek civilian status for himself. But it bears reiterating that an elaborate legislative hierarchy without any real power is seldom a viable creation. For the time being, the general may succeed in winning over political collaborators, who may even genuinely believe that half a cake is better than none. But the new dispensation is so riddled with inherent contradictions that it is bound, sooner or later, to feel the strain of democratic aspirations in conflict with personal autocracy. For all that it is repugnant in principle, a military dictatorship can be effective in practice; similarly, a presidential constitution would legitimately have vested power in a single individual who would have had to obtain popular approval. But General Zia's handiwork combines the worst of the two systems behind a thin and unconvincing veneer of democracy.

The general has the whip hand; and though the prime minister, Cabinet and National Assembly will have a certain debating, or even advisory, role, they hold office only by grace and favour. General Zia retains the right to dissolve the Assembly and install a caretaker government pending fresh elections. His is the final say in the event of a dispute, and he can, if he so wishes, seek public endorsement of his stand through a referendum. Recalling the outcome of the last such exercise, this provision must be regarded as the general's insurance. Not many self-respecting politicains would be prepared to operate under such crippling restrictions, certainly not men who have proved their popularity at the hustings. The general too might find it irksome, after eight years of untramelled rule, having to obtain the approval of politicians of whom he holds no very high opinion. In many respects the arrangement resembles the early uneasy compromises between nascent parliamentarianism and absolute monarchy. Whether Pakistan's newly elected legislators will accept such a regression to the past may become clearer by March 20, when the National Assembly is scheduled to meet; but it would be surprising indeed if the system is not soon overthrown.

NATIONAL HERALD on 'Ethnic Crisis' in Sri Lanka

BK170854 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 6 Mar 85 p 7

[Editorial: "Heading for Civil War?"]

[Text] With every day passing the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka is assuming proportion of a fierce civil strife. This situation is being further aggravated by provocative acts of the J.R. Jayawardene government. It has ousted the three lakh fishermen from the seashore, rendering them not only homeless, but also without any means of livelihood. The 350-km belt from Mannar to Mullaiteevu has been declared no-man's land. All the fishermen's villages from the shore deep into the land have been vacated. Its Defence Ministry in a diabolical move has armed over 30,000 Sinhalese civilians and moved them to the Tamil areas in a move to strike terror among the peaceful and innocent people. Orders have gone out to recruit Sinhala youth to fight the so-called Tamilian terrorism. Such chauvinistic steps have been further fortified by ordering Sinhalese Navy to attack even the fishermen inside the Indian territory. This is calculated to whip up anti-Indian hysteria.

Since July 1983, the ethnic trouble in Sri Lanka has taken a heavy toll of the helpless Tamilians. It is estimated that over 2,000 were killed soon after the trouble escalated. Since then over 50,000 Lankan Tamilians have left their homes and hearths and taken refuge in Tamil Nadu, creating economic, social, and more than that, political pressure on India.

If the Sri Lankan Government feels by these all-out genocidal onslaughts it would be able to curb the legitimate agitation of the Tamil origin Sinhalese, it will find itself sadly mistaken, and by conscripting the civilians and by arming them to fight the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, it would be fanning more trouble which might escalate into a civil war. It is not easy to wipe out 30 lakh Tamilians who have contributed their sweat and blood to build the pride of Sri Lanka. They have nowhere to go after having been in the island for centuries.

Sri Lanka's sack and slaughter of the innocent Tamilians, in gross violation of all the canons of justice and human rights, would not only earn that country a bad name in the world, but would also put great pressure on Indo-Lanka relations. If Sri Lanka felt that India could exercise some influence on the

Lankan Tamiliens by destroying all the bridges of rationality and political sagacity, it is only throwing away that chance. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has shown fortitude and patience in dealing with this crisis. His invitation to Mr Jayawardene deserves an uninhibited response. A political problem can only be solved by political approach, and refusal to sit across the table is senseless brinkmanship, but certainly not statesmanship.

Ziaul Haq Amends People's Representation Act

BK200304 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] The president has promulgated the People's Representation Interim Amendment Ordinance, 1985, amending the People's Representation Act, 1976. Under the amendment, candidates participating in parliamentary and provincial assemblies elections held under Election Order, 1977, will not be required to file the returns of election expenditures.

Afghan Aircraft Violate Airspace, Drop Bombs

BK201039 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Three Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace yesterday and dropped seven bombs in Arandu. No damage or casualties were reported. A strong protest was lodged with the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad this afternoon over the unprovoked attack. He was asked to inform the Kabul regime that if such attack did not cease, the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest with it.

DAWN on Sentencing of 'Libya Case' Defendants

GF151040 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Mar 85 p 1

[Excerpts] Rawalpindi, March 10: Five out of 18 accused of subversive activities were on Sunday awarded life imprisonment by a Special Military Court here.

They are Rana Muhammad Mansha, Zawwar Husain Malik, and Tariq Khurshid of Lahore; Zahoor Ahmad Malik of Mianwali, and Syed Kamran Haider of Islamabad. The remaining persons were adjudged not guilty and acquitted.

The judgement in what had popularly come to be known as "Libya case", was announced in camera at Rawalpindi jail by the presiding officer of the court, Col. Hafiz Alvi. Newsmen, who were not allowed in to hear the judgment, were later directed to wait for briefing in the jail deputy superintendent's office.

A group of young internees was heard chanting slogans near their barracks, hardly a few yards away from where the newsmen were gathered. The accused after the judgement chanted loudly: "Long Live Bhutto", "Benazir, Koum Ki Taqdeer", [Benazir, the destiny of the nation], and "Down With Martial Law".

A total of 18 persons, the colonel said, were arrested under section 120(8) PPC [Pakistan Penal Code] during 1980 and 1982. They were charged with anti-state activities and plans to overthrow the Government.

HAIDAR on Need for Political Parties

GF191232 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 16 Mar 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Political Process Is Not Possible Without Parties"]

[Excerpts] No formal meeting of the National Assembly has taken place except for the oath-taking ceremonies. The elected members have not had the opportunity to air their views on national issues, but at least the views expressed by them at parties in their honor or in interviews to correspondents are heartening.

A point of view is emerging with regard to the utterances of the elected members of the Assembly, from which it can be safely deduced that the people have chosen a leadership which is intelligent as regards national issues, and one that feels the country and the nation cannot progress while there are restrictions on political parties.

Due to the lacuna created by the absence of political parties, a morass of splinter groups has mushroomed, such as the Gilami group, Hazara group, Rajput and Makhdoom groups, and so on, which shows that the non-party elections have served to fan a clannish atmosphere and provincialism. Difficulties are cropping up in the choice of prime ministers and ministers which would not have been there had the elections been held on a party basis.

The convening of elections, and participation in the electoral process to win and then participate in the national affairs as a member of the assembly, is a political process which can be carried out more successfully when there are political parties which have manifestos and laws, and they school their members and workers to bring a solid leadership to the fore. This country was created through the efforts of a political party, and only political parties and political personages can keep it stable.

Khomeyni Stresses Importance of Education, Piety

LD191313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Akrami, the education and training minister, accompanied by the under secretaries of that ministry and the official responsible for the literacy movement were received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning.

During the meeting, first, the education and training minister submitted a report on education and training problems to the imam of the ummah. Then, the hope of the world's oppressed made a speech as follows:

[Announcer read] In the name of God the compassionate the merciful. It is gratifying when you say that the pupils go to the fronts as well as study. I pray for all of them. We should all participate in the war effort. But the important issue is education and training together. Otherwise, education on its own is of no use; it can sometimes be harmful. The harm done to Iran by the thinkers and progressive individuals who have been abroad is greater than that done by anybody else. This is because they have education but no training and piety. The principle of the pursuit of piety is not implemented correctly. It is they who brought up our children, from the start up to university level, so that they are harmful to the nation and the country and useful to others.

You should note that the school period is more important than the university period. For the children's minds are developed in that period. We should try to prevent the entry of those who corrupt our children into the universities and schools. This should not be neglected. They may not be able to do anything now; but they will achieve their goals in 10 years.

We oppose those who are enemies of Islam; we shall stand against them. But we have nothing against those who are not enemies of Islam and mind their own business. Our concern is Islam and the Islamic country. We have sacrificed so many young lives for Islam. Therefore, we should not let their blood go to waste. What do we need a scientist who is harmful to mankind for? Today, the world is burning in the fire laid by harmful scientists. These destructive weapons, bombs, and missiles have been built by these same scientists. Therefore, knowledge should be accompanied by the pursuit of piety. The pursuit of piety should come before that of knowledge. All teachers should cleanse themselves. They should purify themselves so that their words can be effective on others. All teachers should know that theirs is a very important profession. They should be careful to bring up the children correctly, right from the start. For it will be too late when they reach university age.

The teachers should feel that they are responsible to God. If the children are not brought up correctly, the teachers are responsible. If you and I remain silent in this matter, we will be responsible too. I hope that the people will make the necessary effort to build schools that are for their children. Helping the schools is like helping themselves, their children, this country, and this nation. We should develop the country. I hope that the people will help as much as they can and not think that their donation figure should be large. One can participate in the making of schools even with small figures. Of course, large figures are another matter. [as heard]

Give my regards to all the teachers and children and tell them to shape themselves correctly for the future. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Khomeyni Receives Greetings From Armenian Primate

LD192146 Tehran IRNA in English 1809 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19 IRNA — Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Tuesday received New Year congratulations from the head of the Armenian church in Iran.

In his message Archbishop Ardak Manoukian prayed for the final victory of Iranian combatants in the imposed Iraqi war.

The archbishop sent a similar message to Ayatollah Montazeri.

Musavi on Extension of Airspace 'Insecurity'

LD191805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Today, in an interview with our correspondent in connection with the recent threat of the Iraqi regime about the security of the flights of civilian airliners, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said:

As unbalanced persons do, Saddam resorts to every measure to regain his lost honor and thinks such insanities will save him. We have always tried to adopt a logical stance in the face of these illogical and inhuman acts. However, at the same time, we have never hesitated to deliver a more powerful retaliatory blow.

The prime minister added: Since the Islamic Revolution our country has stopped being a thoroughfare for the comings and goings of the Europeans and Americans. However, a country which has 58 foreign flights each week, has a dependent economy, and which can remain upright only with the props the arrogant powers have placed under its arms should count on the fact that Baghdad airport may come under repeated blows of our powerful missiles. At the same time the world should know that, as our esteemed president has said, the issue of insecurity in the air is a contagious one that can be extended to the airspace of all regions and not be limited to just the Iranian and Iraqi borders.

Concerning the fighting capability of our Air Force, the prime minister said: The heroic operations of our Air Force put an end to all the myths which had been perpetrated by the supporters of Saddam and demonstrated that our pilots have the capability of passing through a wall of fire and the antiaircraft missiles to deliver crushing blows to Saddam's regime. In addition, we have demonstrated our power to target the heart of Baghdad with our missiles; and every inhuman act by the regime of Saddam against our cities will be met with retaliatory blows of missiles hitting Baghdad.

Right now, Saddam should take stock and by looking at the places where blows have been delivered think about how long he can persist in the face of the anger of his nation and our missiles.

Concerning the imposed war, the prime minister said: The hands of the aggressor should be smashed. Our fighters on the fronts and our people in last Friday's glorious prayers have demonstrated how much they are prepared to endure. We shall remain steadfast right to the end in order to achieve victory and we will bury even the hope of Saddam's supporters to protect his corpse.

Velayati leaves Algeria for Syria

LD191809 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, March 19, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Algeria for Syria Tuesday after talks with President Chadli Bendjedid on recent developments in the imposed Iraqi war.

Velayati gave Bendjedid a message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i.

He had earlier held talks with Libyan revolutionary leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Meets With Al-Asad

LD200853 Tehran IRNA in English 0847 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, March 20, IRNA — Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati met President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and presented him a message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i on latest developments of the Iraqi-imposed war, Tuesday night.

During the meeting current issues in the region and fraternal ties between Iran and Syria were also discussed.

Velayati outlined Iraqi infringement of June 12 agreement by bombing residential areas and deployment of chemical weapons, and stressed that intensification of the war, early stages of which had already been started, would lead to the downfall and annihilation of the present Iraqi regime.

Supporting the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance, President al-Asad hailed Iran's fulfilment of the June 12 agreement.

He conveyed his warm greetings to the Iranian officials and wished health and success for them.

Velayati arrived in Damascus Tuesday night after a tour of Libya and Algeria. He was welcomed at the airport by his Syrian counterpart Faruq al-Shar'.

Velayati's visits to Libya, Algeria and Syria are taking place within the framework of mutual ties between Iran and these countries. During these visits, the Iranian foreign minister informed officials in the said countries of Iran's firm stance vis-a-vis the Iraqi-imposed war and the Iraqi attempt to cause disturbance in the Persian Gulf region by bombing residential areas in Iran.

Prime Minister Sends Message to Japan's Nakasone

LD192151 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 19, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister for parliamentary affairs, Mojtaba Mir-Mehdi, met and conferred with the Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday.

Mir-Mehdi delivered a message from Iran's Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi to Nakasone on the recent developments of the Iraqi imposed war and the violation of international regulations by the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

Mir-Mehdi stated that Iran respected international laws and at the same time wanted safe passage of ships in the Persian Gulf. He said Iran will stop its retaliatory attacks against Iraq as soon as Baghdad observed the June 12 U.N.-sponsored agreement.

PDRY President Stresses 'Friendly Ties'

LD200943 Tehran IRNA in English 0927 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 20, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry Deputy Mohammad Arab met President of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in Aden Tuesday afternoon [19 March] and presented him a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i.

During the meeting, the Iranian official, referring to the Iraqi bombing of residential areas and deployment of chemical weapons, stressed that by the infringement of June 12 agreement, the Baghdad regime once again proved that it did not abide by international regulations.

But, he added, the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite crimes committed by the Iraqi regime, had respected Islamic and international principles.

Referring to the recent Iraqi warning to attack passenger planes, Mohammad Arab said that it was the most inhuman act which could be expected from a regime which was on the edge of downfall.

However, he added, the Islamic Republic of Iran, while having proven to be able to embark on any retaliatory measures, was ready to refrain from any such acts if Iraq abide by the June 12 Agreement.

In reply the PDRY president stressed ever-increasing friendly ties between his country and Iran and expressed concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-imposed war and bombing of residential areas.

He said that his country was following developments of the war and sought speedy fulfilment of the June 12 agreement.

Referring to plots of imperialism, Zionism and reactionary regimes in the region against the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Yemenese president noted "weakening of the Islamic revolution is weakening of the PDRY's revolution and the Steadfastness Front. Therefore, we are still standing beside the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Aircraft Evacuate 1500 Foreigners From Tehran

LD191548 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpts] This morning seven large aircraft from several air companies evacuated almost 1500 foreigners from Tehran Airport.

An Air France Boeing 747 alone transported 482 passengers, mostly foreigners who are fleeing from Iran. The plane crews were made up of volunteers, experienced staff.

As regards the French there are now no more than between 60-70 in Iran, at least 20 of whom are in Tabriz, on a site belonging to the Alsthom-Atlantique company.

Reporters Invited To Visit CBW Victims

LD191130 Tehran IRNA in English 1042 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters in a statement issued here today invited local and foreign reporters to visit the victims of the latest Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons who are hospitalised at a Tehran hospital.

It added that a group of those afflicted by the Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons in warfronts, are under medical treatment at Tehran's Labafi-Nejad Hospital.

Reporters could visit the patients at 16:00 hours local time.

Chemical Bombardment Victims Filmed

LD192152 Tehran IRNA in Englsh 1807 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA — Domestic and foreign reporters filmed victims of Iraq's chemical bombardment in a Tehran Hospital Tuesday.

The injured said Iraqi forces use airplanes and artillery guns when dropping chemical bombs and deadly gases.

They said most of the gases have cyanide agents and cause suffocation, burns, blindness, and nerve disorders.

The head of the Shahid Labafi-Nejad hospital said casualties from chemical bombardment had dropped because of preparations by Iranians and upgrade in hospital facilities and medical experience.

Reportage on War Incidents, Battle Results

Results of Air Strikes

LD191618 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA — An Iranian Air Force officer today termed Sunday's operations of the Iranian jet fighters in the southern regions of Iraq as a complete success.

He said in their mission, the Iranian fighter planes destroyed a missile base in Naseriyeh north of Faw as well as a power plant near the same area.

Iraqi Jet Hits Qazvin

LD191626 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Zanjan, Zanjan pr. March 19, IRNA — An Iraqi jet fighter violated airspace of Qazvin (north west of Tehran) at 17:35 (14:05 GMT) and was forced to flee by intense anti-aircraft fire of Iranian units.

The Iraqi plane on its way back fired a rocket at the outskirts of the city. No details on possible damages or casualties have been reported.

Staff Communique No 2,047

LD191803 Tehran IRNA in English 1747 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran March 19, IRNA — Iranian fighter planes shot down an Iraqi plane southeast of Ali-Gudarz, Lorestan Province, at 17:28 (13:58 GMT) Monday, said the Military Joint Command in its Communique 2047 today.

Another Iraqi plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire over Tehran the same day and crushed in Qouchak Height northeast of Tehran.

Meanwhile, Iranian artillery units bombarded military and industrial sectors of Basra, Khanaqin and Mandali in Iraq Monday.

On Tuesday, Iraqi planes fled Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the cities of Bushehr, Bakhtaran, Arak, Ardabil, and Khorramabad.

Iraqi planes fired rockets on residential areas of Hamadan injuring 12 people and destroying a number of houses.

In the northwestern front, the Islamic combatants disrupted enemy's armored movements in the Chuman Mostafa and paralyzed their supply and engineering activity in the Hajj Umran area.

In the western front, Iranian forces opened fire on two enemy patrols, killing a number of their troops and forcing them to retreat.

Iraqi engineering personnel were spotted in Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar, Halaleh regions and forced to retreat with casualties.

Iranian artillery on the banks of the Arvand River destroyed four enemy bunkers, killing their occupants.

Iraqi bombardment of the port city of Abadan Monday caused heavy damages to a number of houses.

'Intense Fire' Continues

LD191834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1637 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] According to a dispatch compiled by correspondents of the Central News Unit from the forward lines of the Badr operation battlefronts, an exchange of intense fire continues fiercely between Islam's combatants and the Iraqi Ba'thist Army. Islam's combatants, deployed in their pre-determined defensive positions, continue consolidating their positions.

Our correspondents' dispatch from the front's forward lines says: The work of burying the bodies of the Iraqi troops, strewn throughout the Hawr al-'Azim region, still continues and Islam's combatants continue mopping up the area and clearing booby traps and minefields:

In an interview given to our correspondent, the official in charge of the army engineering unit said: The Iraqi Army covered the entire area with minefields, booby traps, and multi-tiered barbed wire. The work of defusing and clearing these fields will take some time. He said the Islamic combatants' crossing these areas with the minimum possible casualties constitutes a divine miracle and hidden succor.

According to our correspondents' dispatch, the gathering of the booties obtained from the enemy consisting of dozens of cannons, military vehicles, and countless light weapons and rocket propelled grenades continues. This is taking place at a time when vast numbers of shells and ammunition have been captured by the Islamic combatants.

In connection with the operations by the Islamic combatants, an artillery commander said: During the Badr operations, our artillery did well. Thanks to artillery fire opened by Islam's artillery, dozens of enemy tanks and vehicles were destroyed. He added: As an officer who has passed advanced courses on classical warfare, I must say that the Badr operations were unique and the operational plan should be taught in military academies for a long time to come — a rapid and lightning attack which was coupled with the destruction of more than hundreds of vehicles, the capturing of more than 3000, and the killing and wounding of 12,000. This constitutes an irreparable blow to the Iraqi Army.

'Ali, an 18-year-old combatant from the Arab tribes in Khuzestan, says: I was in charge of hunting down tanks. I am happy to say that with my rocket propelled grenade I have set ablaze four enemy tanks. He added: When we were attacking the hearts of enemy ranks, I sensed extreme terror among the enemy and they never stood up against us as soldiers. Their only reliance was on their innumerable tanks.

'High-Ranking' Iraqi Commanders Killed

LD191654 Tehran IRNA in English 1646 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA — A number of high-ranking Iraqi military commanders have so far been killed by the Islamic combatants in the ongoing Badr operation.

The dead body of Brigadier General Takriti, one of Saddam's relatives, who was killed during the Badr operation was taken to Baghdad last Sunday, where it was buried.

Another funeral was held for a colonel in Nasiriyah, who was the commander of an Iraqi military batallion in the recent Badr operation.

Volunteers Depart for Fronts

GF191710 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Following the departure of the dedicated God-seeking people from all walks of life to the fronts of truth versus falsehood during the past few days, a group of humane volunteer forces of Ramhormoz District and the tribal area of Abu ol-Fares, one of the precincts of this district, left for the fronts of light against darkness for battle against the Saddamist forces. They departed from the mobilization center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Ramhormoz.

POW's Paraded Through Ahvaz

LD192216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The first group of Iraqi POW's captured by the mighty hand of Islam's combatants during the victorious Badr operations, were paraded in front of the heroic and martyr nurturing inhabitants of Ahvaz this afternoon in open cars.

According to the same report the first group of Iraqi POW's will leave by train for Tehran this evening.

Egyptians Reportedly Flee Baghdad

LD192118 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, March 19, IRNA — Following Iran's missiling of the heart of Iraq's capital Baghdad and its continuing shelling of Basra, Egyptian nationals in Iraq are hastily leaving Baghdad and Basra for Cairo, the Kuwait-based *AL-WATAN* daily reported today.

According to this report the Egyptians were mostly residents of the cities subjected to Iran's missile and aerial attacks.

Basra Suffers 'Massive Destruction'

LD192114 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, March 19, IRNA — Dispatches indicate that due to Iran's almost non-stop retlatiatory shelling of Basra, the

second largest city in Iraq, the city has suffered massive destruction.

Reports from inside the city indicate that at least 1,000 evacuated commercial and residential units as well as government buildings have been completely destroyed.

It is to be noted that the Ba'thist regime has imposed special curfew regulations in order to prevent people from leaving the city.

Bushehr Calls for Blood Donations

GF200558 Bushehr Domeshic Service in Persian 0553 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] This is Bushehr, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners, the Blood Transfusion Organization of Bushehr urgently requires blood donations from all groups. We invite you to go to the blood bank of the Bushehr Blood Transfusion Organization, located on Imam Khomeyni Avenue.

Air Attack on Hamadan, Esfahan

LD201053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Unit, continuing the Iraqi regime's aerial aggression against our country's cities, at 0900 this morning aggressive Iraqi aircraft violated the airspace of Hamadan and Esfahan, but they were forced to flee as the result of the antiaircraft fire.

Mubarak-Husayn Baghdad Visit 'Propaganda' Ploy

GF200630 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Mar 85

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Excerpts] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordanian King Husayn ibn Talal suddenly arrived in Baghdad yesterday. Mubarak went to Amman and after 3 hours, accompanied by King Husayn, left for Baghdad. This joint visit ended at dawn today, following a lengthy meeting with the Baghdad tyrant Saddam al-Tikriti, which lasted approximately 4 hours. Prior to this visit there were telephone conversations between Saddam and Mubarak and Husayn aimed at familiarization with the situations of the Ba'thist forces on the battlefronts.

If some people think that this visit comes within the framework of dialogue on giving more support and direct aid to the Baghdad regime by the regimes of Amman and Cairo, that is unlikely. The two regimes have given, during the years of aggression, what they could give and they cannot give more than that. The current circumstances of the Baghdad regime are graver than can be saved by aid from Mubarak and Husayn. It has been said that the oil sides which have given millions of dollars of aid are currently unable to give more.

In addition, the military situation, either in Egypt or Jordan, does not have the fundamentals for direct participation in Saddam's black plight. This sudden visit is nothing but a propaganda and political ploy to give psychological support and to become acquainted with the reality of the situations on the battlefronts.

Our stand is the same as it was at the beginning of the aggression, and also takes into consideration the Islamic Republic's stand on putting an end to what is called the war of cities if the other side adheres to it. This stand was made clear to the Indian leader's special envoy to the president. Khamene'i has stressed that we do not wish to indulge in such an affair, but we were forced into it by the Baghdad regime's aggression against our towns and residential areas.

The recent operations have unveiled new facts to be added to all the previous facts and stress that Saddam will inevitably be removed because his forces are collapsing. Will some of the regional forces heed these facts and return to revise their past calculations and policies or will they adhere to their stands? We hope they will revise their stands of the past years and stop supporting Saddam. Based on the principles of Islamic brotherhood and coexistence, they have a wide scope for establishing good relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Charge Protests Kuwaiti Press 'Hostile Attitude'

LD182048 Tehran IRNA in English 2028 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, March 18, IRNA — Iran's charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Mohammed Reza Baqeri, met with the Kuwaiti deputy foreign minister, Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, today and conferred with him on the hostile attitude of the Kuwaiti mass media against Iran. In this meeting, Baqeri protested to the recent allegations of the Kuwaiti mass media, including the Kuwaiti news agency that Iran intended to attack oil installations in Kuwait and other Persian Gulf countries, and asked for official refutation of these unfounded claims. The Kuwaiti official expressed his regret over the incident and promised that an investigation will be opened on the issue.

Afghan 'Intensified Attacks' Against DRA-USSR

LD191642 Tehran IRNA in English 1602 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] New Delhi, March 19, IRNA — Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have intensified their attacks against Soviet-Karmal forces in Kabul during the past week, Afghan mujahideen sources announced today. There were also reports on intense battles between mujahideen forces and Afghan Government troops in Dar ol Aman region in Kabul where the Defense Ministry and other military command installations are located. No details are yet available of damages or casualties. In Qandahar Province, Soviet planes and helicopters attacked several residential areas which were thought to shelter mujahideen forces. There are also rumours that the Karmal regime will transfer the capital from Kabul to Mazar-e Sharif, located along the border with the Soviet Union.